

Message

From: LEE, LILY [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=D6085A744F9347E6836C54C0E85B97B2-LLEE06]
Sent: 3/27/2015 6:22:53 PM
To: Herrera, Angeles [Herrera.Angeles@epa.gov]
CC: Chesnutt, John [Chesnutt.John@epa.gov]
Subject: SF Chronicle inquiry re - Hunters Pt radioactive waste handling
Attachments: Q&As Rad waste handling asphalt Feb 2015 v3-26-15.docx; 2014-11-13 Q&A Hunters Pt Mtg 11-17-2014.docx

Since John is out, I wanted to let you know that I've been working with Suzanne Skadowski and Rusty on this issue. Yesterday, Suzanne got this email:

I'm looking for a source at the Department of Toxics Substance Control to talk about the remediation work at Hunters Point and the allegations that radioactive waste may have been improperly handled. Can you refer me to somebody?

*Peter Fimrite
Staff Writer
San Francisco Chronicle*

Suzanne gave this reporter the appropriate DTSC contact. Though he did not himself ask EPA any substantive questions, I drafted the attached new Q&A about the latest issue. The reporter did not specify what particular allegation he meant, so I also gave Suzanne and Rusty the old Q&As about other similar past issues.

The scanning of the asphalt was supposed to take place yesterday, and I was scheduled to do an inspection, but it was postponed to next week, and I plan to go then.

Lily Lee
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From: LEE, LILY
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 4:54 PM
To: Chesnutt, John
Cc: Skadowski, Suzanne
Subject: FYI - Hunters Pt asphalt load with potential radioactive contamination sent to wrong landfill, but now under control

Welcome back. I wanted to let you know that while you were gone the Navy informed us that on February 13, 2015, the Arcadis contractor mistakenly sent asphalt from Parcel E to Keller Canyon Landfill in Pittsburgh, CA, even though it should have either 1) been scanned first for potential radioactive contamination or 2) gone to a landfill appropriate for low level radioactive waste. CDPH has been working closely with the Navy during the whole process. A CDPH inspector scanned material at the Keller Canyon landfill and has approved the Navy's decisions along the way. This asphalt was located above soil that contained radiation levels higher than cleanup goals. The asphalt was originally constructed after historic activities that would have caused contamination, so it is unlikely to be contaminated. But the Navy's procedure requires that if asphalt is on top of contaminated soil, then it should be treated as if it is also contaminated unless it is

screened and determined to have no contamination above cleanup goals. Arcadis thought the load did not come from a Radiologically Controlled Area, but the Navy's onsite staff discovered that was incorrect. By March 5, 2015, the Navy returned the material to Parcel E and is starting to scan the asphalt to verify whether it contains any contamination. This process will likely take around 60 days.

In the mean time, the Navy is setting in place procedures to prevent similar problems from occurring in the future.

The transported material is unlikely to have exposed communities along the truck route. The truck taking material from Hunters Point to the Keller Canyon Landfill would not have received its manifest without 3rd party verification that the truck was covered. When Arcadis brought back the material to Hunters Point, as an extra precaution, it placed it into bins designed to protect low level radioactive waste.

I have already alerted Rusty, Suzanne, and Jackie. I've talked several times with the Navy to track this issue since I first discovered it while you were gone.

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